

Construction of a database of processed remotely sensed data of waters around Sri Lanka

Remotely sensed data such as ocean colour and sea surface temperature have broad application in fields such as oceanography, fisheries and meteorology. We have processed remotely sensed raw data of 1 km resolution from CZCS (operated between 1978-1996) obtained through NASA of waters around Sri Lanka.

The final data set includes sea surface chlorophyll-a concentrations covering the area of latitudes between 4°N-11°N and longitudes between 78°E-85°E for relatively cloud free days within the above period. A user friendly, database is constructed to include these processed data for the benefit of scientists in Sri Lanka.

Visual Basic, running in dos/windows environment, is used as the primary software in building the database. Users are able to visualize available data. Select areas of interest and extract all or portions of data according to their interest. All processed data are in ASCII format, enabling easy access for users.

Processed sea surface temperature data from NOAA 12 and NOAA 14 satellites will be included in the database as well. The database is expandable to include any such remotely sensed data from present and future satellites. Also, steps will be taken to include other oceanographically important measured parameters such as surface wind and ocean currents, as available. Interested persons may be able to obtain permission to access the database by contacting the authors.